

RUTLAND HERALD.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1864.

F. P. Blair's "Mission."

Some time in the month of July last, the Hon. F. P. Blair went from Washington to New York, and held interviews with some of the leading men in that city on the subject of national affairs. It was stated in the National Intelligencer shortly afterwards, that the President, through Mr. Blair, had offered to McClellan a command in the army, if he would not be a candidate for the presidency. Mr. Blair has published a letter in the Intelligencer in which he says that the account contained in that paper of his "mission" is "egregiously erroneous in many important points." He says "I went on this errand, without consulting the President—without giving him, directly or indirectly, the slightest intimation of my object, and of course without his authority. I apprised no one but my son."

His object was to "heal the divisions in the Union party," fully believing that "united opposition to the rebellion could be concentrated on no other candidate for the presidency than on the man against whom the enemy had declared war because the nation had made him its Chief Magistrate." He waited on Mr. Bryant of the Post, who considered that "Mr. Lincoln, with all abatements, was the only man on whom we could rely for the maintenance of the cause in which we had embarked."—on Mr. Bennett, whose last words to him on leaving the office were "Tell the President to restore McClellan to the Army, and he will carry the election by default."—on Mr. Greeley, who assured him that his "best efforts would not be wanting to secure the peace of the country through the re-election of the President."

He also had an interview with McClellan, of which he gives a somewhat lengthy account. He says:

"I had an hour's conversation with him, which I prefaced by telling him the motives which had brought me to New York, and by stating distinctly to him that I did not come from Mr. Lincoln; had no authority, or even consent, from him to make representations or overtures of any sort to him; that he had not been apprised of my visit or purpose, which was in part to advise with him (the General) as one whom he knew to be his friend with regard to the public interests and his own."

"I told him I had little doubt he would be the nominee of the Chicago Convention, and that if he accepted, he would be defeated, and if defeated, his fate would be that of a previously defeated candidate who had played for the Presidency—Clay, Calhoun, Webster, and the rest; that although aspiration to the chief place in the Republic was an honorable ambition, there was an instinct in the public mind which always excluded from general confidence any who sought it with the least suspicion of selfishness at the expense of great national considerations; and if the public once pronounced its ban by voting him down as having sought the place, without duly weighing its great emergency, especially in such a revolutionary crisis as the present, he could never rise again."

"I urged that if he wished to exert the high military attainments which his friends, and I among the best, believed belonged to him, for the benefit of his country in its life and death struggle, he should abandon the idea of being a candidate for the Presidency if he entertained it, and offer to return to service in the field. I said if the President refused it he would then be responsible for the consequences. If he accepted, the result would be that he would confound his enemies, who had, as I believed, urged on the War Committee and impressed it on the public mind, that the delays of the great army he had commanded in achieving decisive results, were the consequence of an ambition to clutch the Presidency by lingering on the war and his command to the end of the Presidential term, that he might make the prestige and hold the means to effect his purpose."

"I told him my effort was honestly meant, and designed to promote the public good and his own. He seemed to consider it. Disclaiming any desire for a Presidential candidacy, he said that the suggestions I had made were worthy of deep consideration, and they would be well weighed; that he was called to the country by a sick child, and regretted that he could not probably see me again."

I mentioned to Mr. Lincoln, on my return, the attempt I had made at the reconciliation of parties in New York, with a view to defeat the opposition in the North by restoring harmony among all favoring the crushing of the rebellion by arms, and told him I thought it probable Gen. McClellan might write to him in respect to himself. He neither expressed approval nor disapproval, of what I had done, but his manner was as courteous and as kind as Gen. McClellan's had been."

Glory Enough for One Day.

The election returns we have received at the time of writing, indicate that the State of Pennsylvania has gone for the Union by at least 35,000 majority on the popular vote, and elected seventeen out of her twenty-four representatives.

Ohio gives a majority of at least 40,000 of the home vote, and electing sixteen Union representatives to three copperheads.

Indiana has elected six Union men, and five copperheads, and what is more glorious than all, she has re-elected Gov. Morton, by 20,000 majority. The Union Congressional gain in these three States is five in Pennsylvania, eleven in Ohio, and two in Indiana, eighteen in all, making a difference of thirty-six, a securing a two-thirds majority in the House.

These results are important in themselves, and as foreshadowing the grand result of the November election they are immensely gratifying and cheering.

The cause of the Union and the Constitution never appeared more encouraging than it does at this very hour. The Union men of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana have settled the copperheads, as Gen. Sheridan settled that "new cavalry general," Rosser, the other day.

A Point Well Put.

Gov. Morton, the Union candidate for Governor of Indiana, has stumped the State with his opponent, Mr. McDonald, the Democratic nominee. At a recent meeting, Gov. Morton in the opening speech had charged the managers of the Chicago Convention with having carefully kept out of their platform denunciation of the rebellion and censure of the rebels. McDonald's reply was, that denunciation would have done no good, and that he was "opposed on principle to dealing in bitterness and denunciation." The reporter of the meeting writes:

"On this point Morton, in his closing half-hour, planted a lick between Joseph's eyes that doubtless made him too blind to see the fly any longer, and it in all probability escaped unharmed. 'The gentleman,' said the Governor, 'has great charity for Jeff. Davis and his rebel minions who are attempting to destroy the nation; he is opposed to denouncing them, because it will do no good, &c. Then why can he not extend the boundary of his charity so as to take in Mr. Lincoln and the people of the North? If his charity is so great he cannot denounce the enemies of his country, how is it he happens to have so many bitter denunciations to heap on his friends who are attempting to snatch it from the jaws of destruction? At this, the crowd again slung hats, clapped hands, and cried out: 'Hit him again.' 'Hit him again.' And thus did the Governor go on for half an hour, at the close of which some one proposed three cheers for Gov. Morton, and they were given in earnest. No cheers were proposed for McDonald, and this at his home was humiliating enough. He stood the worst looking and the left hand slipped man we ever saw come down from a public discussion."

THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN.—Gen. Sherman's official report, the official Army and Navy Gazette of the week. It is dated September 15, and estimates the enemy's strength to have been between forty-five thousand and fifty thousand infantry and artillery and ten thousand cavalry. Gen. Sherman says that he maintained about the same strength during the campaign; the number of men joining from furlough and hospitals about compensating for loss in battle and from sickness.

The report is composed in Gen. Sherman's terse and trenchant style, and forms a most interesting history of perhaps the most brilliant and complete campaign of the war. He terminates his recital with the following deserved tribute to his subordinate commands:

"My three armies in the field were commanded by able officers, my equals in rank and experience. Maj. Gen. Geo. H. Thomas, J. M. Schofield and O. O. Howard. With such commanders I had only to indicate the object desired, and they accomplished it. I cannot overestimate their services to the country, and must express my deep and heartfelt thanks that, coming together from different fields, with different interests, they have co-operated with a harmony that has been productive of the greatest amount of success and good feeling. A more harmonious army does not exist."

The Philadelphia correspondent of the Boston Journal, says:

"A thrilling incident occurred during the voting in the eighteenth ward to-day. An old man over seventy years of age advanced to the window, leaning tremblingly on his staff, when an officious copperhead vote distributor approached him and thrusting a ticket in his face said, 'Here is a Jackson Democrat, who always votes a straight ticket.'"

The old man opened the ballot and held it with trembling fingers until he had read one or two of the names, when he flung it from him with a loathing, and in a voice husky with emotion, exclaimed, 'I despise you more than I hate the rebel who sent the bullet through my dead son's heart! You miserable creature! Do you expect me to dishonor my poor boy's memory, and vote for men who charge American soldiers, fighting for their country, with being hirelings and murderers?'

The Union ticket was given him, and room was reverently made for the true-hearted old patriot by the hushed and admiring knot around the window.

"MY FRIENDS."—The Free-Rum interest goes for Seymour—of course. In 1854, Gov. Seymour's veto saved their traffic from wholesome restriction, and gratitude as well as fellow-feeling requires a return of favors. So the "nurses of Democracy" as Mike Walsh called the porter-houses of New York, are commanded by "P. W. Engs, chairman," to come up to the work with Seymour's "friends" and carry him in once more. The faithful tapsters are also warned to vote for Congressmen who will take the tax off liquor, and to look out that Assemblymen are not tainted with fanaticism, etc.—Tribune.

ANOTHER TUMBLE TO THE CONFEDERATE CURRENCY.—The European news, received Tuesday evening by way of Cape Race, shows that the rebel loan in London has had another tumble, having been quoted as low as 57. On the news of McClellan's nomination the quotation was 72.

—The death of Mrs. Rose A. Greenhow by drowning in Wilmington harbor, where the blockade runner that brought her from Europe went ashore, is confirmed. She published a book in England, giving an account of her imprisonment at Washington as a rebel spy, as she was, and gave essential aid to the rebels in the early part of the war.

Prices.—The decline in the prices of dry goods continues at the auction sales in New York, and business is very unsettled, many owners of goods doing but little, preferring to hold their stocks rather than sell at the rates that prevail now. The decline in the auction rates of general dry goods is not less than 30 per cent, and the decline in millinery goods from the highest points of last month is from 25 to 40 per cent. The decline on woolen cloths is equally great. Heavy overcoat cloths, which were held a month ago at \$11 a yard, have been sold at \$6.63 to \$7.13, and beavers that were held at \$9 have been sold at \$5.25. The decline in foreign cloths and shawls has averaged 30 per cent. Carpets have also fallen off largely, three-ply, 75 cents a yard, Brussels, \$1, and velvet carpets in the same proportion. These auction sales are below the wholesale or jobbing prices, however, and the general market is not so low as these sales would indicate.

As to purchasers, the large majority will purchase as sparingly as possible because they must. And if they find those with whom they deal refusing to yield a reasonable decline in prices they will transfer their trade where they can do better, or if there is a general disposition among the traders in any place to maintain extortionate prices, the consumers will wait till they come down. These matters cannot be controlled by special pleading to any great extent, either for or against any standard of prices. Every consumer must keep himself informed of the changes in the markets and act accordingly. If he finds the retail price of an article in Springfield fifty per cent more than the wholesale price in New York, he may be certain there is gouging somewhere, and is at least justified in asking questions.

TRUE HEROISM.—Lieut. Buttrick of the 69th Massachusetts regiment writes as follows:

"In the battle of September 30 there was a young man killed, a member of the 67th regiment, who used to live in Concord. His name was Broad. He was never in a battle before, as he has been connected with the ambulance train. He met his death in this way: There was a man struck by a solid shot, cutting one of his legs nearly off. The poor fellow was bleeding to death, but if brought off would in all probability get well. Broad was the only man who would volunteer to go out and fetch him in. It was almost certain death for any man; but, said Broad, 'I have neither wife or child to suffer if I am killed,' so out he went, and picked him up, put him on his shoulder and brought him in safely though the bullets flew like hail around him. He came in so promptly that we all thought he had escaped the bullets. But alas! poor Broad was a wounded man. He laid his burden on the ground saying, 'I may have saved your life, but I have lost my own.' He was shot through bowels, and died very soon after. He was as brave a man as ever lived."

A BURNING IN POLITICS.—Gen. McClellan declares for the Union and wants to maintain it, and says he would be ashamed to look in the faces of his old soldiers if he could speak otherwise, and then turns toward the Chicago peace party, and gravely tells them he thinks they must have meant the same thing when they voted the war a failure and clamored for armistice and negotiation in its stead. There is nothing equal to this in history, but Dickens publishes a parallel in Capt. Bunbury's "opinion as is an opinion."

"My name's Jack Bunbury. And what I say I stand to. Whereby, why not? If so, what odds? Can any man say otherwise? No. Awast then? Do I believe this here son and heir's gone down, my lads? Mayhap. Do I say so? Which? If a skipper stands out by Sen George's channel, making for the Downs, what's right ahead of him? The Goodwins. He isn't forced to run upon the Goodwins, but he may. The bearing of observation then lays in the application on it. That ain't no part of my duty. Awast then, keep a bright lookout forward, and good luck to you."—Springfield Republican.

SECESSION AND DEMOCRACY.—If the Democratic party was always so devoted to the Union as Judge Abbott has pretended, it is very singular that Hon. L. M. Keitt should have used the following language in a speech at Charleston, in November, 1860:

"Amos Kendall threatened us on the one side, and John Hickman on the other. If we went out of the Union, eighteen millions of northern men would bring us back. Let me tell you there are a million of democrats in the North, who when the black republicans attempt to march upon the South, will be found a wall of fire in front." (Cries of "that's so!" and applause.)

The same attitude of the Northern Democracy which led Keitt to make this declaration, still inspires the Charleston Mercury to say:

"If we hold our own and prevent further military successes on the part of our foes, there is every prospect that McClellan will be elected, and his election upon the Chicago platform must lead to peace and our independence."

A FUNKY CASE OF LOVE AND MONEY.—Dr. Kant of Vienna was in love with a rich young lady, and told another rich lady, not young, who was in love with him, that poverty was his reason for not marrying. The latter generously next day made over to him 150,000 gulden, and sent the deed with a note as follows: "Dear Sir: I have much pleasure in inclosing a paper which, I hope, will remove the obstacle in the way of your marriage. Believe me, &c. Alice Martini." Dr. Kant, for he and no other was the addressed, was the happiest man in the world on receiving this generous epistle. But, alas! that he should have put a different construction on it to that expected. Repairing at once to the parents of Frauslein Fischel, the lady of his love, he proposed for her and was accepted. His reply to Frauslein Martini, besides conveying his sincere thanks, contained two cartes de visite, linked together by the significant rose-colored ribbon. Miss Martini forthwith sued the happy bridegroom for restitution; but as no promise of marriage had been made, the case has, by two successive courts, been decided against her.

Miscellaneous Items.

—The Aphrodite, wrecked off the coast of North Carolina, was not a naval vessel.

—A generous man in Troy, who lost a \$1000 bank check, the other day, gave 25 cents to a boy who found and returned it to him.

—A Pennsylvania story relates how a man named Wallace, who could not buy a pair of boots a year or two ago, is now worth \$75,000.

—It is rather ludicrous to see a fellow take a twenty-five cent cigar from his mouth to grumble at paying five cents for a morning newspaper.

—The Chicago platform may be summed up in two words, "Beat Lincoln." The Union platform may be expressed in three words, "Beat the rebels."

—The doctors of Hanover county, Va. have agreed to charge \$30 for a day visit, \$60 for a night visit, and \$100 for assisting in the increase of population.

—An exchange under the head of "Facts and Fancies" says: There are five young kingdoms in Europe in want of wives, to wit: Bavaria, Greece, Orange, Sardinia and Russia. If this is a fact we fancy that every young kingdom of them will have to go wanting.

—John B. Gough delivered a lecture on temperance Monday evening at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and the rush to hear him was so great that hundreds went away unable to gain admittance to the building.

—The destruction of buildings and crops by General Sheridan seems to have thoroughly sickened the inhabitants with the war, and it is believed that the whole of the Shenandoah valley would vote for peace on any terms if the opportunity were offered.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.—In accordance with the authorization by the act of Congress, the Navy Department to-day have telegraphed to the proper authorities in San Francisco to arm and equip a vessel at that port for the use of Engineer Bulkeley and party, who are soon to proceed on the expedition north, to commence operations for the completion of the great overland telegraph line, from the Columbia river, in Washington Territory, to the Amour river, Russia. The expedition will probably commence active operations in the northern latitudes by the 1st of March. The officers of the United States Coast Survey feel great interest in the necessary preliminary surveys of the expedition, and are according to Engineer Bulkeley and his assistants all the facilities in their power.

THE GUERRILLAS IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.—Refugees from the Shenandoah valley report that the guerrillas operating in Sheridan's rear do not confine their attentions to the Union forces, but plunder all the inhabitants, without regard to political sentiment. One gang has been doing a thriving business stealing horses in Virginia, selling them in Maryland, where they would steal more and sell them to the farmers in the valley. Some horses, it is said have thus been stolen and sold several times. Several arrests of the leaders of these bands have been made by the rebel cavalry, which had suffered from their depredations, the rebel officers disclaiming any participation in the outrages.

A ROGUE AT LARGE.—A confidence swindler, who called himself George B. Morgan, of New Haven, Conn., has been operating at Keene, N. H. He stopped at the Cheshire House, represented himself an agent of the government for the purchase of horses, and made some contracts for horses. He procured the name of George W. Ellis of Swanzey on a slip of paper, wrote a note for \$280 above it, and got the money at the Cheshire County Bank. He then hired a team and went to Fitchburg, thence by train to Worcester, and took the cars to Springfield, since which nothing more is known of him.

A CHARACTERISTIC TRICK.—The managers of the Copperhead party in New York State have forwarded McClellan tickets to the army endorsed Union Soldiers' Vote. The object of this deception is to lead soldiers to suppose they are voting the regular Union ticket, while actually voting for the Chicago Cessionist. The fact that they are compelled to resort to such a trick shows the desperate straits to which they are reduced.

GEN. SHERMAN'S KINDNESS TO CITIZENS OF ATLANTA.—The Macon (Ga.) Telegraph says refugees report generally kind personal treatment from Gen. Sherman and his officers, and adds:

"A friend whose wife was left an invalid in Atlanta, and came within our lines a day or two since, says that at her request Gen. Sherman came to see her, and finding her unable to attend to the arrangement of her movables for transportation, had them all bound up nicely and transported to our lines—even to her wash tub."

The Federal General had three hours' conversation with her, and justified at length his order for the removal, insisting that in his exposed position, liable to be cut off and besieged, it was the part of humanity to require that non-combatants should not be exposed to the privations and perils to which his army must probably be subjected; and worse because he could not provide too for a large population. Goods left behind were stored and duplicate receipts given with the promise that they should be safely returned.

Refugees report that Sherman's army is going away by thousands, and his force is very small. Whether this movement is confined to men going out of service, or embraces reinforcements to Grant, they were unable to say.

MCCLELLAN'S PROGRAMME.—The Indianapolis Sentinel, the organ of the Indiana Democracy, published an article last Monday, headed, "A few thoughts upon the coming Presidential election," in which the writer, after depicting the terrible results (to the Democracy) of Mr. Lincoln's re-election says: "Turn we now to review the result should the Chicago nominee be elected. His programme will be a cessation of hostilities, and the attempt to restore the Union by compromise and reconciliation, or, if failing in that, taking the last extreme—secession."

Local and State Items.

ARRRESTED.—It will be recollected that two or three weeks ago an Irishman named O'Grady was found dead on the railroad track, and that there was strong suspicion of foul play in the case. Last night Messrs. Briggs and Green arrested a man by the name of Valentine and lodged him in jail on suspicion of his having committed the murder.

HIGH SCHOOL.—We spent a pleasant hour yesterday, listening to the prompt and intelligent recitation of a class in the History of the United States, and of one in Natural Philosophy. We know of nothing that the good people of Rutland have more reason to be proud of than this free high school of more than a hundred scholars, under the instruction of a very able board of teachers.

CORRECTION.—In our brief account of the Fair at Brandon, we stated that out of several yearling Merino ewes exhibited by Mr. N. T. Sprague, Jr., six were sold for \$100 apiece. In this we were in error. Those on exhibition, as we have since been authentically informed, were not for sale, and could not be bought for less than \$300 a head. Those that were sold were drawn from a flock of twenty seven, and were really the poorest of the lot.

DEATH OF COL. CUMMINGS.—The Burlington Times says: "We regret to announce that the wife of Lt. Col. Cummings, 17th Vt., has received a letter from Surgeon Edison of the 17th Vt., saying that he saw reported in a Petersburg, Va., paper the name of her husband, with those of other Union officers, prisoners, who had died of wounds since captured."

APPLES.—A farmer from Ira brought into this village yesterday, a load of good, fair apples, which he offered and sold for two dollars a barrel.

BURGLARY IN MOUNTAINLY.—We learn that the house of Mr. J. N. Wells was recently entered in the night, and about seventy dollars in money stolen. There were some eight dollars in silver coin, six hundred copper cents, and the rest was in green backs and bills of the Rutland banks. Mr. Wells, who lives alone, was absent at the time of the robbery.

NORMAL INSTITUTE.—We would invite the attention of our readers to the card of Messrs M. D. & D. D. Cole to be found in our advertising column.

VERDANT.—A mining miss who had just passed her teens went into a store in a smart village in this county, and called for some lace. The clerk—a new hand—blatantly asked "How many will you have, Miss?" she replied, "A pair, sir, if you please." The accommodating youth immediately started up two digits of lace and brought down a couple of lace stents enough to dig all the potatoes in the state, and asked her if "them would do." Damsel left in high dudgeon, and bought her "stockings" where the clerks were not so green.—Irish Standard.

RESOLUTIONS.—The following resolutions, reported by the Hon. L. B. Englesby of Burlington, and adopted by the Union Convention, are taken from the Burlington Times:

Resolved, That the Union party of Vermont in this its first Convention, since the nomination of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson, heartily ratify their nomination, and pledge to them a united and hearty support in the coming election.

Resolved, That this election will declare to the rebels and to the world, our determination that in this government of the people, bullets shall not overthrow ballots, but that as in earlier days, officers lawfully elected shall be peacefully obeyed.

Resolved, That we congratulate the army and its loyal supporters everywhere, on the glorious progress of the work of putting down the rebellion, and that to the gallant soldiers of the Union we offer not pity but praise, not care and protection only, but reinforcements and the right to vote; not sympathy alone, but grateful recognition and reward.

Resolved, That we accept the issue tendered at Chicago, and declare that justice, humanity, the cause of free government and the public welfare demand that there shall be no cessation of hostilities until the authority of the United States Government is again acknowledged and obeyed throughout every acre of the National domain.

LETTERS TO PRISONERS.—In writing to prisoners at the South, if you wish your letters to reach their destination, be careful to observe these regulations: Write but one page, on purely private matters; send it unsealed, accompanied by ten cents for postage. Boxes not over fifteen inches square with the cover attached by screws, containing clothing and various little comforts—but wines, food, and communications excluded.—May be safely sent via Adams' Express to Charleston or Savannah, "care of Lt. Col. Stewart L. Woodford, Major Gen. Foster's staff, Hilton Head." Money may be sent by mail or express to prisoners, for which receipts will be given by the rebel authorities to our Commissioner of Exchange.

FROM THE AUTHOR OF "TOM BROWN."—A letter recently received by Mr. Garrison from Thomas Hughes, the popular author of "Tom Brown," and one of our best friends in England, says:

"I think I may safely say that the great majority of Englishmen, who have recently taken the trouble to study the question, agree with me in thinking that Mr. Lincoln has proved himself thoroughly honest and trustworthy in the fearfully difficult and trying position in which your nation have placed him, and that these qualities far more than outweigh his faults, which have been only such as arise from caution, and distrust of himself."

Miscellaneous Items.

—The Atlantic cable about to be laid will bear four times its own weight.

—Butter is selling at twenty-six cents along railroad lines in western New York.

—On Monday morning, September 26, there was a shock of earthquake in the north of England.

—Ten rebel prisoners have escaped from the camp at Elmira, N. Y., by a tunneling operation.

—Mr. Christopher Gray, aged 102, recently addressed a religious meeting at Brooksville, Me., where he lives, and gave a concise history of his life.

—The colored people of Chicago have published a protest against the exclusion of their children from the public schools of that city.

—The Mayor of Richmond has a salary of \$8000. If paid in "graybacks," this is equal to about \$130 in gold, or less than fifty cents a day, which is low wages for hard work.

—In one column the New York Copperhead papers claim great Democratic victories, and in the next maintain that flour and dry goods are advancing in consequence of Republican successes.

—James Hazzard, the soldier who killed George E. Sheldon of Hancock by shooting into a crowd at the depot, Concord, N. H., a month or two since, has been sentenced to jail for one year and to pay \$500 fine. He offered no defense.

—On Tuesday night at Philadelphia Victor Estephe beat Dudley Kavanagh 496 points in 1000 in a game of billiards. Kavanagh is the champion player of America, and Estephe claims that he won on the part of Pennsylvania.

—An exchange heads its account of the late rebel raid on Lake Erie: "The Rebels in Fresh Water." On the same principle it should head its news from the Shenandoah valley: "The Rebels in Hot Water."

—Among the devices used by the Opposition in Pennsylvania to secure the election yesterday was a report telegraphed on Sunday to all parts of the State, that the army of the Potomac had been defeated, and was retreating, badly cut to pieces; and that one corps in particular, which contains many Pennsylvania soldiers, was almost destroyed.

—The Davenport Gazette says that 1500 of the rebel prisoners confined on Rock Island have recently enlisted in the service of the United States. They are to be sent to the northwest territories to take part in operations against the hostile Indians. At present they are separated, for personal safety, from their fellow prisoners, some of whom manifest much hatred toward them because they have volunteered.

—Stewart, the great New York dry goods dealer, is building a marble structure, 61 by 114 feet, on the site of the late Saratoga Springs mansion on Fifth Ave., of New York, but whether as a gallery of art, or a private residence does not yet appear. It has already cost \$200,000 and there is much speculation in regard to its use. If it becomes a private residence, 400 guests with moderate entertainments can be accommodated at one time on the drawing room floor.

—Rev. Horace James, who has charge of the contrabands on Roanoke Island, N. C., has got a saw and grist mill into operation, and is beginning to build school houses, and will have quite a village erected before winter. The contrabands flocking into Kansas from Missouri tax the charity of the people there very heavily, and there are thousands of the negroes at Lawrence who are very destitute and need help to carry them through the winter.

GEN. MCCLELLAN'S PRIVATE PLATFORM.—The New York News has repeatedly stated that Gen. McClellan saw and approved the armistice resolution adopted at Chicago previous to the assembling of the convention. This statement receives indirect but strong support in a letter from Saratoga Springs to the London (England) Post written previous to the Chicago convention. The writer says:

"As for his principles, it is difficult to say what they are. Avowedly, McClellan is a Unionist. Openly he professes to be willing to give the South every necessary guarantee, provided the southern states consent to return into Union; privately he assures those friends who discourage the prosecution of the war, that he desires peace, and that he will advocate an armistice, and a convention of the states should he receive the nomination at Chicago. He urges as a reason for not openly availing himself of these sentiments, that the people are not yet ready to endorse them, and considers it impolitic to take any step too decidedly in advance of the popular feeling. He feels assured however that the triumph of the democratic party must end in peace, for he says that even if it wished to carry on the war there would be no army of any magnitude at the disposal of the government by the 4th day of March next. What the opinions and professions are worth it is hard to say. There are not a few who distrust McClellan, and who fail to place confidence in the assurances of a man who was one of the first in the country to denounce the violation of personal liberty, as he did by the arrest of the members of the Maryland legislature; who has made all the reputation he has as a war man by the prosecution of the war; and who is still drawing pay from the republican government as an officer of the army now engaged in carrying on a war which he pretends to regard as injurious to the country."

FORT HARRISON.—This fort, for the possession of which so much blood has been recently so fruitlessly shed, is situated on the crest of a hill, a little to the north of the Varina road, distant about one mile from the river, nearly due east from Chapin's Bluff, and six miles from Richmond. It is equal in strength, with a proper garrison, to the most formidable of the defenses this side of the Potomac. The desperate efforts which the rebels made to dispossess us of it, soon after its capture by Gen. Butler's forces, and the fearful slaughter which this attempt cost them, attest both its strength and the value which they attached to its possession.